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Letter dated 16 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chair of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP), I have the honour to transit herewith a copy of the Declaration of the eighth Special Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries held in Lisbon on 14 April 2012 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Ismael A. Gaspar **Martins**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 16 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

VIIIth Special Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries

Lisbon, April 14th, 2012

Resolution on the Situation in Guinea-Bissau

The Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), having held its VIII Special Meeting in Lisbon on April 14th, 2012, in order to analyze the situation in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau following the military coup of April 12th, 2012;

Recalling that the pursuit of peace, democracy, rule of law, human rights and social justice are the founding principles of the CPLP;

Having learned with dismay of the military coup perpetrated in Guinea-Bissau in flagrant violation of those fundamental principles;

Taking into account the aggravating fact that the military coup took place on the eve of the electoral campaign for the 2nd round of the elections that would decide the President of the Republic, and during an electoral process that was deemed transparent by the national and international communities;

Having heard the detailed and informed briefing by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau on the situation in the country;

DECIDES:

1. To vehemently condemn all actions of subversion in Guinea-Bissau, demand the immediate restoration of the constitutional order, democratic legality and the conclusion of the electoral process;

2. To urge all those involved to immediately stop the violent and illegal acts that are the subject of condemnation by the entire international community;

3. To demand strict observance and preservation of the physical integrity of all public office holders and other citizens who are in custody of the military rebels, as well as their immediate and unconditional release, stressing that any act of violence will be considered unacceptable and will result in serious consequences for the perpetrators, and those involved will be made accountable according to international criminal law;

4. To affirm before the Bissau Guinean people and the international community that the only authority recognized by the CPLP in Guinea-Bissau is that which results from the exercise of the popular vote, institutional legality and the imperatives dictated by the Constitution, and reject any acts by entities that may be announced following the military coup;

5. To support the important role played by MISSANG under the agreement, in favour of stabilization, peace, and reform of the defense and security sectors in Guinea-Bissau, and that has been recognized by the civil society, the legitimate Bissau Guinean authorities, and the international community;

6. To maintain a close liaison with the States of the West African Sub-Region and their regional and international partners, including the United Nations, the African Union, ECOWAS and the European Union with a view to establishing an effective partnership that can contribute to peacemaking and the long-term stabilization of Guinea-Bissau;

7. To take the initiative to establish an intervention force in Guinea-Bissau in the framework of the United Nations and in conjunction with ECOWAS, the African Union and the European Union, taking into account the experience of MISSANG on the ground, and a mandate defined by the Security Council of the United Nations aiming to:

   a. Defend peace and security;

   b. Guarantee constitutional order;

   c. Protect the institutions, the legitimate authorities and populations;

   d. Conclude the electoral process;

   e. Implement the reform of the defense and security sectors;

8. To warn all those involved in the alteration of the constitutional order in Guinea-Bissau, both civilians and the military, that continuing their illegal conduct will lead the CPLP Member States to propose targeted sanctions by the relevant international and regional organizations, including:

   a. Travel bans;

   b. Freezing of assets;

   c. Criminal liability;

9. To reaffirm the urgent need for completing the reform of the defense and security sectors in Guinea-Bissau as a precondition for the establishment of lasting peace and stability in the Country;

10. To reiterate that only the full respect for the constitutional order, the rule of law, the democratically constituted authorities and the current electoral process will ensure that the Bissau Guinean people — the main victims of this situation — reach peace and development;

11. To approve an "immediate action plan" to put into practice the decisions set out in this resolution.

Lisbon, 14 April 2012